



# North Jersey School Music Association

Region I of the New Jersey Music Educators Association

www.njsma.com

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September, 2005

Dear Fellow Music Educators and Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that the entire NJSMA executive board and I welcome both new and returning members of NJSMA (Region 1) to a new school year. The board has already spent quite a bit of time preparing over the summer for this year's Region activities, and we look forward to providing high quality programs for you and your students.

Over the summer, the executive board spent some time making some clarifications and revisions to the **NJSMA Constitution and By-Laws**. This year we will be posting the original documents along with the proposed changes on our website (www.njsma.com) for your perusal. The vote to accept or reject these changes will take place at this year's annual general membership dinner meeting on May 1, 2006. If you have never made it to the annual meeting before or if you are new to the Region, you will not want to miss this one—not to mention the free dinner! (You will receive more information regarding this dinner later in the year.) If you have not previously seen the Constitution and By-Laws or have not read them in a while, I strongly urge you to download a copy and look them over. Together they are about four pages long—it should only take about five minutes to read.

Every new year brings changes as we strive to improve how we deliver our programs to you. **This year our Band Division has begun to put in place a new registration procedure for all wind, brass, and percussion auditionees.** These students will be given audition times *in advance* this year, which is a significant change from past registration procedures. Details of this new registration procedure can be found by clicking [HERE](#). If you are sponsoring wind, brass, and percussion students this year, please read it over closely.

Ensemble auditions will once again be at Paramus High School. **High School auditions are Saturday, January 7, 2006 and Junior High School auditions are Saturday, February 4, 2006** for all groups. In the event of inclement weather, please check the website or call the weather hotline (973.831.4880). If bad weather prevents the auditions from taking place, the snow date for each audition is the next day, Sunday. As of this writing, we need schools to volunteer to host the auditions for the snow dates (Paramus is not available on Sundays). If your school is willing to host the auditions for the snow dates, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Audition forms** will once again be available online from our website (www.njsma.com). We will again be using separate forms for each type of audition: Choral, Wind/Brass/Percussion, and Strings. We no longer use one all-purpose form for student applications. Please make sure students (or you) download forms that say 2005/2006 at the top. If you have a form that only says 2005, please discard it and download the new form. Note to band directors: if you have a high school wind, brass, or percussion player who wishes to audition only for orchestra, he/she must still use the Wind/Brass/Percussion form and send the form to the Wind/Brass/Percussion audition chairperson, not the string audition chairperson. **High school forms are due by November 21, 2005** (late applications due by December 5, 2005), and **junior high school forms are due by December 12, 2005** (late applications due by January 4, 2006). Note: You can type directly onto the director forms, like the student forms, using Adobe Acrobat Reader (available free from www.adobe.com). If you have any problems downloading or printing forms, please do not hesitate to contact the audition chairperson or division chairs.

Last year at the end of the school year we held our annual **scholarship auditions**, and we are happy to announce the following winners, each to receive a \$2000 scholarship: Caley Bowen—Whippany Park HS, Emilie Peterson—Vernon Twp. HS, Elena Shapiro—Teaneck HS, and Madalyne Tregellas—Kittatinny Regional HS. We wish these and all the students who auditioned good luck as they embark on their musical studies in college. We will again be offering scholarships this year. Information will be distributed at the first rehearsals of the high school ensembles.

In an effort to keep everyone involved and aware of the Region board's activities, we hope to send out **email newsletters** this year. If your email address has changed, if you have not previously submitted an email address, or if you know colleagues whose email addresses we do not have, please let us know so we can keep you informed. As the Region moved from active mailings to a passive website, it has been more difficult to keep the membership involved and aware, and we hope these newsletters will help. Members of the executive board can be contacted via email or phone (see the website).

And speaking of the board, there have been a number of personnel changes to this year's NJSMA executive board. First I would like to thank Janell Kallimanis for her time and dedication to the board as she steps down from the presidency. Janell has been serving on the board for many years in various capacities, and we welcome her to the Past President position. I would also like to give a very big thank you to Donna SanGiovanni, who, after many years, is leaving the board after serving most recently as the Past President. Donna has worked tirelessly for the Region in so many ways they cannot be listed, and we wish her all the best. At last May's general membership meeting Steve Bell was voted in as the president for 2007-2009, vacating his position as choral division co-chair. Taking Steve's place in the choral division is Krystal Rickard. Gary Quam, one of the orchestra division co-chairs will be our new Public Relations Ambassador. Taking Gary's place is Miriam Stachow, who has served on the Region board in the past. Finally, I am pleased to appoint Rebecca Daino as our new Elementary Division Chair. Rebecca and the entire board are hoping to revive and revise our elementary programs and get more of our elementary colleagues involved in our activities. (whew—did you get all of that?) The remainder of the board has stayed on (see below). I thank the board members for their spirit of volunteerism and concern for all students and teachers across our region. Your efforts are appreciated by all.

Good luck to everyone as you embark on your new school year. We look forward to seeing everyone again at the auditions and general meeting in May.

Sincerely,

John S. Pierce, Ed.D.  
NJSMA President

2005-06 NJSMA Executive Board

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Francesca Kubian and Miriam Stachow, Orchestra Division Co-Chairs  
Rebecca Daino, Elementary Division Chair  
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